SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, we will consider suggestions of the hon. Member.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Sir, may I know from the Minister whether the Government have received any complaints with regard to illegal mining of coal? If this kind of activities are carried on we are all equally concerned. After receiving complaints by the Ministry of Energy, I would like to know whether these have been forwarded to the concerned State Governments. If so, what action they have taken on these complaints?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, some complaints were received and we have brought it to the notice of the concerned State Government and they are enquiring into those matters.

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : सभापति महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि जो मौतें इन दो वर्षों के अंदर हुई है उसके बारे में वे क्या कोई जांच बिठायेंगे कि वे मौतें किस जगह पर हुई हैं, वैध जगह पर हुई हैं या अवैध जगह पर हुई हैं? क्या मंत्री जी इस प्रकार की कोई जांच बिठाने को तैयार हैं ताकि इस बारे में लोगों के मन में जो शंकाएं हैं वे दूर हो सकें?

श्री वसन्त साठे : इसकी जांच हो रही है। दो-तीन जगहों पर जो दो-तीन लोगों की मृत्यु हुई हैं इसकी जांच राज्य सरकार के मातहत है।

श्री रामचन्द्र विकल : वैध जगह पर हुई हैं या अवैध जगह पर?

श्री वसन्त साठे : कुछ अवैध जगह पर भी हुई हैं और उनकी जांच हो रही है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question.

*251. [*The questioner (Shri Parvathaneni Upendra) was absent. For answer* vide *cols.* 31—36 infra.]

*252. [*The questioner (Shri Sunil Kumar Pattnaik) was absent. For answer,* vide *cols.* infra.]

Loan assistance by West German financial institution

†*253. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received further loan assistance during the year for its various mining projects from the KFW—a Government of West Germany financial institution;

(b) if so, the total amount of increased loan to be received under the latest programme of loan assistance; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ensure that the foreign exchange under such schemes of loan assistance is not misused by any undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) During 1986-87 and this year, KFW assistance was received only for the projects of Neyveli Lignite Corporation. In January 1987, Government of India signed a loan agreement for DM 180 million with KFW for the NLC projects. This year (1987-88) KFW has agreed to reserve another DM 110 million for NLC's projects. Loan Agreement covering this amount of DM 110 million and an additional amount of DM 110 million committed in 1986-87 is expected to be concluded this year.

(c) The loan is utilised in accordance with the rules of the Government and the

†Previously Starred Question 233, transferred from the 30th April, 1987.

conditions laid down by KFW. There has been no occasion of misused of loan assistance by NLC.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Sir, I have been writing to the Minister and he has been responding to me time and again. Two notorious concerns—MAN and WMI both have been disqualified even by the consultants M/s. Rheinbraun and KFW who have been financing us. The Miniser knows that bucketwheel excavators which were supplied by MAN, one of them broke down and the project is worth of Rs. 21 crores. Now there may be a dispute about other [illegible]s. So far as the claim by NLC from MAN about Rs. 1.59 crores for rehabilitation was concerned, there is no dispute. May I know from the Minister in spite of this claim by NLC and MAN, why did you give them further Rs. 8 crores with 10 per cent advance? May I also know from the Minister whether you deducted the rehabilitation claim which was already demanded by NLC because of being called human failure? I want to know whether you have deducted this about. If not, why have you further entered into an agreement with that firm which was found faulting on that account?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: This is what happens when some parties link up some previous things with a future arrangement. Sir, with KFW we have an arrangement and all that they have done is to give us assistance for setting up a project. Now, in previous projects something wrong had happened with regard to bucketwheel excavators or some damage has taken places. The recovery is the separate aspect. It is not from KFW. The question relates to loan from KFW. I am sorry to say that the hon. Member is still obsessed with the earlier question that he has in his mind.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am definite about my mind with regard to WMI. May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to Q. No. 869 dt. 30-4-1987 (*Interruptions*) about WMI? The Indian collaborator—MAN has not supplied cranes to Paradip port and Kandla port. These facts were brought to the notice of major ports and also poor performance by WMI. You know that MAN operates in India through WMI. They are failing in all the Ministries. They are failing in your Ministry also. Not only this. There is a further Rs. 100 crore project. In spite of all these failings, still these projects are being given to them. Why do you deal with them at all when the firm is failing on all grounds? The technical consultants have declared them unfit for the job. Yet, why do you give this Rs. 100 crore project to them?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, do you want me to answer this question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I want you to answer only this part of the question, that the supplies have been failing and the performance of this company has not been satisfactory; why do you still continue to give the contracts to that company?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: As far as KFW is concerned, as far as KFW assistance is concerned, the condition is that orders have to be placed on German firms, German parties. And now two German parties have come. We have a consultant and we take their assistance. Whatever they ultimately approve we select that. As far as equipment that we have secured in Neyveli is concerned—I am not concerned with other areas—we find that it is working satisfactorily and we will keep the interests of Neyveli and of the country always uppermost. I do not want to take sides of any particular party in this matter.

*254. [*The questioner* (*Shri S. S. Ahluwalia*) *was absent. For answer* vide *cols.* 41-42 infra]

Banning of dangerous fire works

*255. SHRI K. G. MAHESWARAPPA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that studies conducted over the past four years